

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A first device operates at a first hopping frequency during a first period of time and operates at a second hopping frequency during a second period of time. A second device operates at the first hopping frequency and communicates with the first device during the first period of time. A third device operates at the second hopping frequency and communicates with the first device during the second period of time. The second period of time may be a contention-free period during which time the second device may not communicate with the first device.

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